

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION No-1027**  
ANSWERED ON- 15/12/2022

**LONG DELAYS IN PROCESSING OF VISAS TO THE US**

1027. SHRI BINOY VISWAM:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the year-wise average time taken by the US to process tourist, work, and student visas since 2019;
- (b) the reason for the ongoing extreme delays in issuing US visas to Indians; and
- (c) steps Government is taking to address the issue of long wait times for US visas?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN)

- (a) The Ministry of External Affairs is aware of the challenges being faced by Indian travelers in the last two years for obtaining visas for US particularly in wake of the COVID 19 pandemic.
- (b) According to US Government officials, due to the impact of COVID 19 pandemic on their consular operations and resumption of international travel, there is a large global backlog of visa applications.
- (c) The Government of India is closely engaged with the concerned authorities in US, with the objective of further easing the visa issues for all categories of Indian travellers to USA.

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